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Attorney Docket No. 0756-2222

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.

Serial No. 09/699,466

Filed: October 31, 2000

For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING A
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2829

) Examiner: A. Sarkar

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 27,
) 2004.

Rose Fichtel

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing information known to Applicant and requests that this information be made of record in the above identified application. Copies are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

In connection with the *Interview Summary* dated March 5, 2004 and Applicant's communication of March 4, 2004, the following clarification and corrections are provided. With respect to U.S. Patent 6,482,686, while this U.S. patent is commonly owned with the subject application, the '686 patent claims priority to a Japanese Application published as 07-066425 on March 10, 1995, which includes equivalent disclosure as that in the '686 U.S. Patent. A copy of this Japanese Application publication with its English language Abstract is further submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner.

Also, with respect to U.S. Patent 6,495,404, while this U.S. patent is commonly owned with the subject application, the '404 patent claims priority to three Japanese

Application Patent Applications. These three Japanese patent applications were published as 08-045839 on February 16, 1996; 08-045840 on February 16, 1996; and 08-097169 on April 12, 1996. Further, there is a Korean patent application that claims the priority dates of these three Japanese applications. The Korean application was published as KR96-5879 on February 23, 1996. These three Japanese applications and the Korean application include equivalent disclosure as that in the '404 U.S. Patent. A copy of these Japanese application publications with their English language Abstracts are further submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. Also, a copy of the Korean application publication is submitted herewith. No English language abstract is available for this reference.

With respect to U.S. Patent 5,970,327, it has been found that this patent was subject to an assignment to a further third party and thus does not qualify as being "commonly owned" as set forth in 35 U.S.C. 103(c). Therefore, it is believed that this patent may not be disqualified as prior art under section 103(c) and consideration of the '327 patent on its merits is respectfully requested.

The statements with respect to U.S. Patents 6,528,358 and 6,465,287 are believed to be correct. These patents are commonly owned and disqualified as prior art in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 103(c).

A check in the amount of \$180 is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

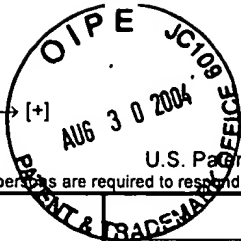
Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/699,466
				Filing Date	October 31, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
				Examiner Name	A. Sarkar
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6,162,704		Yamazaki et al.	12/19/2000	
		6,294,441		Yamazaki	09/25/2001	
		6,461,943		Yamazaki et al.	10/08/2002	
		6,620,711		Yamazaki	09/16/2003	
		4,068,020		Reuschel	01/10/1978	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	07-066425			03/10/1995		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-045839			02/16/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-045840			02/16/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-097169			04/12/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		KR	96-005879			02/23/1996		U.S. Equiv.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Office Action, August 3, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
		Office Action, February 11, 1999, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
		Office Action, January 17, 2003, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
		Specification, Abstract, Drawings, and Pending Claims, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.